

For Immediate Release

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Legislation keeps promise to our veteran's by providing needed medical care and facility funding

Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Sires worked to support our nation's veterans by voting for H.R. 3082, the fiscal year 2010 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, which passed the House by a vote of 415 to 3.

“The passage of this bill shows our nation's veterans that we will continue to support them by ensuring they receive the best health care possible,” said Congressman Sires. “For the first time, advanced funding has also been included to ensure medical services and facilities can continually provide for our veterans.”

H.R. 3082 fully funds the President's request at \$108.9 billion to support medical care, claims processors and facility improvements. \$48.2 billion was also provided in advanced funding so our veterans never have to go without adequate care. Additionally, \$4.6 billion was included for mental health care, \$3.2 billion for homeless veterans, and \$85 million for extended care facilities to ensure that all our veterans, including those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, are given the care they were promised.

Furthermore, funding was also included for military construction projects totaling \$24.6 billion. The guard and reserve initiative received \$200 million, as well as \$7.5 billion for Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) and \$537 million for environmental clean up.

“I am so proud that the House of Representatives has been able to come together in a bipartisan way to support those that have honorably served our country, and to remind them that we will keep our promise to them by providing the care and benefits they deserve,” said Congressman Sires.

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